social hygiene news



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Ban Boston Bars In Record Crackdown

In one of the severest crackdowns in years, ten Boston bars were put off-limits to servicemen last month after an American Social Hygiene Association Survey disclosed "flagrant vice conditions."

Following the action of the Armed Services Control Board, the Boston Licensing Board issued clean-up orders to twenty-five night clubs for failure to bar known prostitutes.

The ASHA survey, done at the request of the Army Provost Marshal Office, disclosed open solicitation of young servicemen in twenty-five spots, mostly in the theatrical nightclubs and the South End district. According to the report, conditions have become "more flagrant" compared with two years ago when the Association last surveyed the area.

Chairman of the Boston Licensing Board, Clarence R. Elam, said the owners of the twenty-five establishments it warned were told punitive action would follow unless they discouraged unescorted females from loitering, and discouraged known procurers, prostitutes and sex deviates.

Paul Kinsie, director of ASHA's Division of Legal and Social Protection, said that conditions in Boston were worse than such other port cities as Seattle, Portland and San Diego, and definitely worse than Norfolk, another big Navy town.

BARNOUW ELECTED CHAIRMAN

Erik Barnouw, ASHA board member, has been elected national chairman of the Writers Guild of America. Mr. Barnouw is associate professor of dramatic arts at Columbia University and editor for the Center of Mass Communication of Columbia University Press.

Mather Re-Elected At Annual Meeting

Philip R. Mather, Boston industrialist, was re-elected to his ninth term as president of the American Social Hygiene Association, and two nationally known governmental leaders were elected to the Board of Directors at the Association's 43rd annual meeting in New York on May 13.

The two new ASHA directors are the Honorable Francis B. Berry, M.D., United States Assistant Secretary of Defense; and Edward G. Conroy, City Manager, New Rochelle, N. Y.

Report Teen VD

Venereal diseases, drinking and drug addiction are increasing among American teenagers, the Senate Juvenile Delinquency subcommittee reported last month.

"Every year," the report said, "more than twice as many cases of venereal diseases are reported among teenagers as cases of tuberculosis, poliomyelitis, rheumatic fever and infectious hepatitis combined."

A result of nearly four years of nationwide hearings, the 250-page report pointed out that sexual maladjustment and VD are closely related to other problems of youth, and that if the upward trend of juvenile delinquincy continues, more than one million children will be brought before the courts in 1965.

Oettinger Made Chief

Katherine Brownell Oettinger was sworn in last month as Chief of the Children's Bureau, Department of Health, Education and Welfare. She was appointed by President Eisenhower March 25, 1957, to succeed Dr. Martha M. Eliot, who resigned January 1

Mrs. Oettinger has been dean of the School of Social Work, Boston University, since 1954 and has had extensive training and experience in the fields of mental health, social welfare and community organization.



Edward G. Conroy Francis B. Berry

A graduate of Harvard University Medical School, Dr. Berry has served as Assistant Secretary of Defense since 1954. He has been Professor of Clinical Surgery at Columbia University Medical College, and associated with Bellevue Hospital, New York, as a director of surgery.

Dr. Berry holds the rank of Brigadier General in the United States Army. He served in World War I, and in World War II saw active service overseas in various medical executive capacities, winning the Legion of Merit, the Military Commendation Ribbon and the Croix de Guerre.

Mr. Conroy, a nationally known authority on good municipal government systems, became New Rochelle's first city manager in January of this year. Since 1948 he served as director of the Bureau of Government Research in San Antonio, Texas, and vice-president of the Research and Planning Council of San Antonio, a citizen-supported, non-profit corporation which conducts studies on governmental, community, and planning problems.

For his fight for better government in San Antonio, Mr. Conroy won the

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Miriam English Doll

Mrs. Doll To Retire; 35 Years On Staff

Miriam English Doll, personnel director of the American Social Hygiene Association and staff member for thirty-five years, will retire in July.

In making the announcement, Philip R. Mather, ASHA president, praised Mrs. Doll as "a good right hand" to three ASHA executive directors through the years.

Mrs. Doll, affectionately called "Dolly" by staff members, came to ASHA in 1922 as a membership clerk and in the years since then served the Association in increasingly responsible positions.

From 1914 to 1945 she was executive assistant to Dr. William Freeman Snow, ASHA's first executive director. During the depression years when ASHA, along with other voluntary agencies, suffered severe financial hardships, Mrs. Doll was one of a devoted staff of four who managed to put out publications, secure backing for important VD legislation, and organize community groups throughout the country.

Since 1945 when she was Dr. Charles Walter Clarke's administrative assistant, Mrs. Doll has held the title of assistant secretary of the Association.

UELAND GIVEN POST

Arnulf Ueland, ASHA board member, has been appointed volunteer state chairman of the Minnesota Savings Bond Committee by Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey. Mr. Ueland is president of the Midland National Bank of Minneapolis.

VD News Notes

Development of a vaccine for syphilis is a "real possibility," Dr. C. A. Smith of the Public Health Service told Congress recently . . . The Pennsylvania State Health Department reports a 13.4% increase in new VD cases last year and announces plans for an accelerated blood testing survey to fight the rise . . . Standard laboratory tests for syphilis at times help detect other diseases even before their physical symptoms appear, according to a recent editorial by the late Dr. Charles R. Rein and Louise C. Kelec in the Journal of the American Medical Association. . . Dr. B. A. Winne, director of preventive medical service in the Nevada Department of Health, said that the state's VD problem is "most acute" because of the large transient population, but that with more personnel, public cooperation and great patience it can be conquered. . . . A simple and inexpensive test for syphilis from which results can be obtained in ten or fifteen minutes is now being field tested in Mississippi and California, assistant

Annual Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

San Antonio Award for Civic Service, the Good Citizenship Award, and the LaGuardia Award for Outstanding Achievement in Municipal Affairs. He was made an Honorary Life member of the American Social Hygiene Association in 1954 for "his indispensable leadership for better government and a more wholesome environment for San Antonio."

Honorary vice-presidents elected at the meeting were Dr. Thomas B. Turner, dean, School of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University, and Dr. Charles Walter Clarke, former ASHA executive director, now retired. Mr. Alan Johnstone of Washington, D. C., formerly an ASHA board member, was elected a vice-president.

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chief of the U.S. Public Health Services VD Program, Dr. W. G. Simpson, announced in Atlanta. . . . VD remains a problem in Sweden today in spite of thirty-eight years of free medical care for the diseases and widespread sex and VD education, reports Malcolm Tottle in the "British Journal of Venereal Diseases." Improper use of penicillin by VD victims who doctor themselves is complicating the detection and treatment of VD in Indiana, according to Dr. Albert L. Marshall, chief of the State Health Department's Comunicable Disease Division. . . . Free VD clinics are being set up in North Carolina's Rockingham County.

Dr. Rein Dies

Dr. Charles R. Rein, internationally renowned dermatologist who combatted venereal and skin diseases in many parts of the world, died last month in New York at the age of 52.

Dr. Rein, a diplomate of the American Board of Dermatology and Syphilology, was a member of the International Advisory Committee of the American Social Hygiene Association since its inception in 1951, and for many years worked closely with ASHA in helping to develop its activities and program in the international field.

As a medical consultant to the World Health Organization, Dr. Rein conducted a successful campaign against yaws and other endemic ailments in Haiti through the use of penicillin and other modern medication. The Haitian Government gave him an award for his work.

Dr. Rein was clinical professor of dermatology at the New York University Graduate School of Medicine. He served as president of the American Venereal Disease Association, president of Phi Delta Epsilon, national medical fraternity, and was a member of many professional organizations, including the American Academy of Dermatology and Syphilology.

Dr. Rein was born in Toledo, Ohio, and was graduated from the University of Toledo. In 1928 he received his M.D. at the University of Michigan. He held the Legion of Merit and the Cuban Carlos Juan Finlay Award for distinguished service.

Work With Tots Nips Problems

Children should be worked with at the elementary school level to combat problems which too often appear "full blown" in adolescence.

So said Mrs. Paul Whitney, noted youth counselor, who was principal speaker at the Missouri Social Hygiene Association's annual meeting last month in St. Louis.

Speaking to a gathering of nearly a hundred community leaders, Mrs. Whitney urged early family life education for children in the schools as well as counseling services for families in trouble as two ways of alleviating family stresses.

A panel discussion on how to strengthen family living featured members of the Missouri Association's Board of Directors. They included Dr. Loretta Cass, clinical psychologist, Community Child Guidance Clinic, Washington University; Ralph Young, director of Carver House; and the Rev. Trafford P. Maher, S.J., director, Department of Education, St. Louis University, and ASHA board member.

Akree New ASHA Region Representative

Philip S. Akree has been named ASHA's Regional Representative for Family Life Education in the Central Atlantic States.

Mr. Akree, who has spent twenty-five years in social work teaching, community organization, and casework, will work with local agencies, institutions and citizens' groups, to further education for personal and family living in communities in North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and Washington, D. C.

For the past five years Mr. Akree held the post of Executive Director of the Family Consultation Service of Wichita, Kan. He had previously served as Executive Director of the Family Service Society of St. Louis County, Mo; Executive Director of the Midcentury White House Conference on Children and Youth for Missouri, and regional representative for the Family Service Association of America.

Mr. Akree has taught at the University of Wichita and at the School of Social Work, Washington University.



Philip S. Akree

D. C. Society Meets

Sex Guidance and Family Life Training at the Crossroads was the theme of the Social Hygiene Society of the District of Columbia's annual Institute held last month.

Dr. Harlburt L. Dunn, Chief of the Office of Vital Statistics of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, spoke on "Raising Levels of Wellness in the Family and Community," urging that interest be focused on attaining high levels of emotional and spiritual health as well as physical well-being.

At the luncheon session of the Institute, Dr. John R. Cavanagh, psychiatrist and lecturer at Trinity College and Georgetown University, discussed "Sex, Marriage and Mental Health."

Mrs. Esther E. Sweeney, assistant to the executive director of ASHA, moderated an open panel discussion in which prominent local youth leaders and educators participated.

California Committee Talks Of Teens



OUTLINING PLANS FOR ASHA's teen-age VD study is Dr. Martin Loeb, UCLA sociologist and director of the West Coast phase of the research project. His interested listeners are (left to right) Dr. Norman Orgel, ASHA board member and president of the Missouri Social Hygiene Association, and Dr. John Beeston, ASHA board member and president of the Los Angeles Health Education and Venereal Disease Council. They are pictured at the Council's Social Hygiene Day meeting held last month.

NEW AFFILIATE IN TENNESSEE

Plans are under way to form a new affiliate of the American Social Hygiene Association in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Dr. A. J. Von Werssowetz, program head of the city-county health department, has been named chairman of the steering committee appointed by local citizens to organize the new group.

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Social Hygiene News

Because of greater emphasis in state and local health departments on VD casefinding this year, as a service to our readers we are listing some popular VD materials now available from the Center for Mass Communication of Columbia University Press at prices below production costs.

The materials, which are all unused stock, are available at the special prices until September 1, 1957. Although the time limit will not permit sending samples or previews, further information can be obtained from CMC, Columbia University Press, 1125 Amsterdam Avenue, New York 25, N. Y.

RECORDINGS:	FORMER PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER
I Shall Be a Witness. 16-inch, one-quarter hour, 33 1/3 r.p.m. Starring Sister Rosetta Tharpe	\$10	\$3
The Unsuspected. 16-inch, six programs, one-quarter hour, 33 1/3 r.p.m. Narrated by George Hicks. May be broadcast three times in each community		\$10
VD Radio Project 1. 16-inch, six programs, 33 1/3 r.p.m. Starring Tom Glazer, Merle Travis, etc.	\$25	\$10
VD Radio Project II. 16-inch, six programs, 33 1/3 r.p.m. Starring Henry Fonda, Hall Johnson Singers	\$25	\$10
That Ignorant, Ignorant Cowboy and I've Got Good News. 10-inch, 78 r.p.m. Two songs on syphilis	\$1.25	\$.75
PRINTED MATERIALS: Leaflets on Syphilis: We're Healthy Are You? Four pages, cartoon illustrated	\$4.50 per 1,000	\$4 per 1,000
Don't Just Stand There. Decal for men's washrooms, cartoon	\$10 per 100	\$5 per 100
The Invader film; study guide. Accompanies film	25¢ each \$10 per 100	10¢ each \$5 per 100
The Invader film; TV kit with suggestions for presenting the film on local television	\$1	50¢
FILMS:		
Feeling All Right. 35 mm. prints only. Thirty minutes, black and white. Southern Negro family story, effective case-finding aid.	\$175	\$100